

The Indiana Department of Correction Awards \$1,766,652 Grants for Juveniles

Media Contact:

Department of Correction

Java Ahmed

(317) 234-1693

E-mail: jahmed@doc.in.gov

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Commissioner J. David Donahue.

Indianapolis, Indiana - (January 13, 2006) - The Department of Correction announced that four counties have been awarded new grants to support the juvenile community transition program (JCTP). Elkhart, La Porte, Porter and Marion counties received grants to establish more constructive and effective approaches transitioning juveniles back into their communities from DOC, modeled after a program in Lake County.

In addition to a \$1,766,652 annual grant, Community Corrections will provide the counties with technical assistance on various reform strategies as well as opportunities to participate with and learn from colleagues in other jurisdictions. The formal participation will begin on March 1, 2006 and end February 28, 2007.

"I have prioritized children's issues to fundamentally improve the safety and care of Indiana's children. Tough problems like overcrowding and overrepresentation of children in detention centers will be aggressively addressed and resolved," said Commissioner J. David Donahue. "I am very pleased with these four counties and their effort to implement the existing model. By working together, we can reduce overcrowding at juvenile detention centers and ensure that juveniles have the opportunities to become productive adults throughout the state of Indiana."

The four counties showed implementation of a variety of strategies designed to make the juvenile transition system smarter, fairer, more efficient and more effective.

The process for additional requests for funding from Community Correction began in 2005 and will be overseen by Community Corrections Director, Deana McMurray. The objectives include the implementation and tracking of juveniles in the system; to redirect public funds toward successful reform strategies; and to reduce recidivism.

About the Department of Correction

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>. The Department's Re-entry Site can be found: <http://www.reentry.in.gov>.